



# State of South Carolina

## Office of the Governor

MARK SANFORD  
GOVERNOR

POST OFFICE BOX 12267  
COLUMBIA 29211

July 14, 2003

Mr. J. I. Palmer, Jr., Regional Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4  
Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

Dear Mr. Palmer:

In response to the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) letter of March 19, 2003, I have asked Lewis Shaw from South Carolina's Department of Health and Environmental Control to provide updated recommendations for 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard designations and supporting information to EPA.

South Carolina's commitment to ensuring cleaner air for our citizens has been clearly demonstrated by achieving compliance with all national air quality standards for more than a decade. We recognize that air quality has a direct impact on the public's health, environment, economy and quality of life. Providing our citizens a healthy and safe environment as soon as possible is of primary concern. Our continued commitment to cleaner air sooner for the citizens of South Carolina is demonstrated by forty-five of South Carolina's forty-six counties joining us in a statewide ozone early action initiative to attain compliance with the 8-hour standard no later than December 2007. In that the primary goal of this effort is attainment of the standard as expeditiously as possible, EPA should give great deference to the judgment of the states in determining what steps are needed to assure prompt compliance with the national 8-hour ozone standard.

The staff of your agency and those from DHEC have an excellent working relationship, and I am certain that they will work effectively through this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MS", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Sanford

cc: Mr. Earl Hunter, DHEC  
Mr. Lewis Shaw, DHEC